URBAN DISTRICT

OF

FEATHERSTONE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1954

FEATHERSTONE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL
OFFICER OF HEALTH
1954.

BY

J. F. FRASER

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
Baghill House,
Walkergate,
Pontefract.

To The Chairman and Members of the Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration a Report on the Health and Health Services of Featherstone during the year 1954.

The Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,
Your Obedient Servant,

John F. Fraser.

Medical Officer of Health.

FEATHERSTONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL - 1954

Chairman: Cr. H. Darbyshire

Vice Chairman: Cr. J. Harper

Cr. A. Booth

Cr. A. Bingley

Cr. W. Griffiths

Cr. J. Fearnley

Cr. M.L. Fox

Cr. J. Parker

Cr. T. Morgan

Cr. E. Rowley. C.C.

Cr. B. Major

Cr. H. Woodcock

Clerk to the Council:

H. Tattersall, A.L.A.A., F.R.Econ.C.

Medical Officer of Health.

John F. Fraser, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

John Hilsley, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

PART ONE

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District: 4,425 acres.

Population, mid-year, Registrar-General's estimate: 14,080.

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1954: 4,285.

Rateable Value at end of : 1954 - £60,335. 1953 - £57,607.

Product of penny rate: 1954 - £224/-/-. 1953 - £220/13/7d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1953.

Live Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	117 (142)	96 (125)	213 (267
Illegitimate	3 (7)	3 (4)	6 (11
Total	120 (149)	99 (129)	219 (278

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population: 15.6 (19.8)

Still Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	5 (2)	2 (3)	7 (5)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (1)	- (1)
Total	5 (2)	2 (4)	7 (6)

Rate per 1,000 live and still births: 31.0 (21.1)

Rate per 1,000 estimated population: .49 (.43)

Deaths.	Male.	Female.	Total.
All Age Groups.	74 (69)	68 (44)	142 (113

Deaths - Infants under one year.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	4 (4)	4 (5)	8 (9)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Deaths - Infants under four weeks.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	4 (3)	2 (3)	6 (6)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

MATERNAL DEATHS. NIL (NIL)

Death Rates.

General rate per 1,000 population	10.1 (8.0)
All infants per 1,000 live births	36.5 (32.4)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	37.55 (33.7)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	NIL (NIL)
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births	NIL (NIL)

The principal causes of death are set out in the following Table.

TABLE I.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tuberculosis Repiratory	2	1	3
Tuberculosis Other	-	1	1
Meningococcal Infection	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	6	10
Malignant Neoplasm Lung Bronchus	3	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	-	1	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	1	6	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	1
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	7	5	12
Coronary Disease, Angina	10	5	15
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	1	1
Other Heart Diseases	12	13	25
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	3	4
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	9	5	14
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4	1	5
Nephritis & Nephrosis	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations	1	2	3
Other Defined & Ill-defined diseases	7	7	14
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
All Other Accidents	4	1	5
Suicide	2	2	4
Homicide & Operations of War	1	-	1
	74	68	142

The number of deaths registered during the year was 142, 29 more than last year. This yields a death rate of 10.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population as against a figure of 8.0 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales is 15.2.

The principal causes of death as compared with 1953, 1952, 1951 and 1950 are as follows:-

	1954.	1953.	1952.	1951.	1950.
Heart disease	40	33	27	41	46
Cancer	22	16	24	12	16
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	12	11	16	10	19
Bronchitis	14	9	9	7	7
Tuberculosis (all forms)	4	3	5	6	3

INFANT MORTALITY.

The infant mortality rate for 1954 is 36.5 compared with 25.5 which is the figure for England and Wales.

The following Table gives causes of infant deaths during 1954, classified into age groups and months of incidence.

TABLE II.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks	2-3 wks	3-4 wks	1-3 mth	3-6 mth	6-9 mth	9-12 mths	All ages under 1 yr. M.	F.	T.
Intestinal Obstruction. Meconium Ileus.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Prematurity	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
Congenital Malformation	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2
Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
	5	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	4	8

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR PREVIOUS SEVEN YEARS AS COMPARED WITH 1954.

Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infant Mortality Rate.
1947	25.3	11.1	37
1948	22.4	10.8	37
1949	20.5	11.6	36
1950	19.0	9.7	46
1951	19.1	7.1	7
1952	18.4	9.2	19.3
1953	19.8	8.0	32.4
1954	15.6	10.1	36.5

TABLE III.

COMPARISON OF FEATHERSTONE VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING URBAN DISTRICTS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

	Featherstone Urban District	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England & Wales (provisional) figures.
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population)	15.6	14.7	15.1	15.2
DEATH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population) ALL CAUSES	10.1	12.7	11.9	11.3
Infective & Para. Dis. excl. Tub. but incl. Syph. and other V.D.	0.07	0.07	0.08	*
Tuberculosis Repiratory	0.21	0.18	0.16	0.16
Tuberculosis Other	0.07	0.01	0.02	0.02
Tuberculosis All Forms	0.28	0.19	0.18	0.18
Cancer	1.63	2.12	2.01	2.04
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	0.85	2.03	1.84	*
Heart and Circulatory	3.20	4.88	4.54	*
Respiratory Diseases	1.70	1.27	1.22	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and still births)	Nil	0.80	0.89	0.69
Infant Mortality	36.5	28.3	28.0	25.5
Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births)	31.0	26.6	25.9	23.4

* figures not available.

PART TWO.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the prevalence of infectious diseases throughout the year.

TABLE IV.

Disease.	Jan/ Mar	Apl/ Jun	Jul/ Sep	Oct/ Dec	Total	Deaths	No. of cases admitted to hospital.
Scarlet Fever	9	8	-	1	18	-	14
Whooping Cough	10	7	1	4	22	-	1
Measles	1	3	4	1	9	-	-
Pneumonia	4	2	1	3	10	-	1
Erysipelas	1	1	-	-	2	-	1
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	1	2	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	1	-	2	-	2
Dysentery	-	-	9	41	50	-	11
Meningococcal Infection.	-	-	1	1	2	-	2
	27	21	17	52	117	-	33

Measles follows a two yearly cycle and this has been a "low measles" year. There were 9 cases against 267 in 1953 and 31 in 1952.

Immunisation.

129 children under the age of five years and 2 over the age of five years received a full course of primary immunisation against diphtheria. In addition 4 children received a reinforcing injection.

A special immunisation session was held at Albert Street Clinic, Featherstone, on the first Tuesday of each month.

TABLE V.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of Tuberculous persons.

No. of Cases in Register.	Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Non-Respiratory M.	Non-Respiratory F.	Total.
At Commencement of 1954	62	32	12	19	125
Notified for the first time during 1954	8	3	1	1	13
Transfers - INWARD	1	1	-	1	3
Removed during 1954	8	3	1	2	14
At the end of 1954	63	33	12	19	127

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table.

TABLE VI.

Entries relating to:	Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Non-Respiratory M.	Non-Respiratory F.	Total.
Persons who have died	5	1	1	1	8
Who have recovered	-	1	-	1	2
Persons who have ceased to reside in the district.	3	1	--	-	4
	8	3	1	2	14

In the following Table new cases and mortality are classified.

TABLE VII.

Age Groups	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 and under 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 and under 25	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 and under 35	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
35 and under 45	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
45 and under 55	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
55 and under 65	3	-	1	-	1	-	1	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	8	3	1	1	5	1	1	1

Part III

COUNTY COUNCIL
OF THE
WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

DIVISION 12.

Pontefract Municipal Borough

Featherstone Urban District

Knottingley Urban District

Osgoldcross Rural District

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER
1954

BY

J.F. FRASER

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Divisional Staff at 31.12.54.

Divisional Medical Officer:

J.F. FRASER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Assistant County Medical Officers & School Medical Officers.

G.M. Mayhall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

J.C. White, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Health Visitors and School Nurses:

Miss E.M. Atkinson
Mrs. P.M. Brice
Miss B.N. Kennington
Mrs. A. Kerton
Miss M.H. Osborne
Miss B.K. Porter
Miss E.A. Ross
Miss H. Theobald
Mrs. M.K. Walsh

Assistant Health Visitors:

Miss L.O.I. Day
Mrs. A. Williams
Mrs. J.K. Smith (Clinic Nurse)

Tuberculosis Health Visitor:

Mrs. E.W. Petch

Midwives:

Miss K. Ault
Mrs. A. Atack
Mrs. I. Bushell
Mrs. E. Glover (relief)
Mrs. B. Lister
Miss C. Norton
Mrs. A. Pritchard
Mrs. A.M. Randall
Miss C.A. Roberts
Mrs. W. Tame
Mrs. J.R. Wilford
Miss M. Wright

Home Nurses:

Mrs. F.M. Ashworth
Mrs. R.L. Copestake
Miss A. Elsley
Mrs. F. Green
Miss E. Leach (relief)
Miss E. Lumley
Mrs. A. Moiser

Mental Health Social Worker.

Miss E.T. Simons

Mental Health Home Teacher.

Mrs. G.J. Argile

Speech Therapist:

Vacancy

Duly Authorised Officer:

Mr. R.W.F. Battye

Senior Clerk:

Mr. W. Carver.

INTRODUCTION

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Services Act.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births.

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1954 was 963 (491 males and 472 females), a decrease of 51 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE, although 17.3 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 18.5 for the previous year was well above the West Riding Administrative County rate of 15.1 and the England and Wales birth rate of 15.2

Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 535 (309 males and 226 females), a decrease of 105 compared with 1953.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 9.6 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 11.7 for the previous year. Here again the death rate compares favourably with that for the West Riding Administrative Area which is 11.9 and for England and Wales 11.3.

Infant Mortality.

In 1954 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 33, a decrease of three compared with the previous year. The infant mortality rate was 34.3 as against 35.5 in the previous year.

Maternal Mortality.

It was pleasing to note that once again there were no maternal deaths in the Divisional area.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

Domiciliary Midwifery

Of the 988 notified live births, 504 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 59 of these cases.

Notifications

The following notifications were received from midwives practicing in the division:

Death of Child	2
Still Births	8
Artificial Feeding	50
Liability to be a Source of Infection	6

Medical Assistance

Medical aid notices sent in by midwives during 1954 numbered 115, all of these being domiciliary.

Gas and Air Analgesia

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with the necessary apparatus.

Gas and air analgesia was given in 330 cases compared with 321 the previous year.

Pethidine was administered to 339 patients compared with 329 the previous year.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

There are four Ante-Natal Clinics in the division which are held at Pontefract, Featherstone, Knottingley and Ferrybridge and during the year 575 patients attended, of which 420 were new patients. The total number of attendances was 2,589.

At all of these clinics post-natal examinations are carried out and 160 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

Relaxation Classes

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at the Pontefract and Featherstone Clinics.

These have continued to be well attended and it has been found necessary to increase the number of sessions at the Pontefract Clinic. The number of attendances at these clinics during the year was 517.

Institutional Midwifery

Patients from this division are admitted either to the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

No difficulty has been experienced regarding maternity accommodation, although it has not always been possible to secure admission to the hospital of the patient's choice. Due to travelling difficulties there is a preference for the Castleford Maternity Home, although our allocation of beds is much smaller than at Southmoor.

CHILD WELFARE.

There are in the division eight Infant Welfare Centres, the clinics at Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley being held in county-owned premises, whilst the ones at Carleton, Ferrybridge, Streethouse, Loscoe and Beal are held in hired premises.

The clinic at Headlands Road, Pontefract has been inadequate and unsuitable for some years now, but due to restrictions on building it has not been possible to replace this clinic. Plans have now been approved for the erection of a new multiple clinic in Horsefair, and it is hoped that a start will be made in the financial year 1955/56. This clinic will cater for children from the other areas of the division for specialist services such as Ear, Nose and Throat, Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic, Ultra Violet Ray, etc. During the year 1,622 children attended the clinics and made 13,222 visits.

The following proprietary preparations were available at cost price to all women attending the clinics:

Ostermilk	Virol
Trufood	Maltoline
Cow & Gate	Farex
Ovaltine	Scotts Twin Pack
Glucose 'D'	Robinson's Groats
Horlicks	Robinson's Patent Barley
Minadex	Colact
Lactagol	Robrex
Bemax	Robsoup
Cerex	Bovril Weaning Food
Trufood Cereal	Roboleine

The following were distributed free of charge:-

I.C.D. Tablets	Ferrous Sulphate Tablets
Viteolin Tablets	A & D Liquid
Vitamin 'C'	Lactation Tablets

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

Premature Babies.

During the year 54 babies weighing 5½lbs or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the division and 24 were born at home.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Medical Inspections.

The periodic medical examination of the four age groups, i.e. entrants (5 years +) second age group (7 years +) intermediates (10 years +) and leavers (14 years +) continued throughout the year at the 54 schools in the division.

Re-examinations of children who at previous periodic or special examinations had been found to have defects, were made at each school medical inspection. During the year 3,805 periodic inspections were carried out. In addition 1,550 special inspections and re-examinations were made. When it is considered that the school population is 10,000 it will be realised over half of all children at school were examined at one time or another during the year.

General Condition of Children.

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination and are classified as follows: (a) those better than normal (b) normal (c) below normal. In this area 42.6% were classified (a), 51.19% (b), and only 6.21% (c).

Uncleanliness.

During the year Health Visitors and School Nurses made 16,273 examinations of children in schools. Of these 670 individual children were found to be infested.

SPECIAL CLINICS

Ophthalmic Clinics.

Mr. S.K. Sledge holds one session per week at the Pontefract Clinic at which children from all areas of the division attend. Due to the large number of children awaiting examination it has been necessary on occasions to hold additional sessions which have been held by Dr. J.V. Kirkwood, and during the year 1,155 children were examined. Of these 462 were prescribed glasses.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Mr. K.M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Headlands Road Clinic for children from this division. Due to the large waiting list Mr. Mayall has very kindly undertaken additional sessions during the year and in all 27 sessions have been held. The total number of children seen by Mr. Mayall during the year was 271 and the total number of attendances made was 379.

Orthopaedic Clinics.

Mr. A.J.S. Bell-Tawse, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon holds a monthly clinic at the Headlands Road Clinic and during the year 11 sessions were held. 152 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 208.

Child Guidance Treatment.

Dr. M.M. MacTaggart, Educational Psychologist holds Child Guidance Clinics at the County Health Department, Wakefield for children from this area, and during the year 9 new cases were seen, whilst 24 children continued attendance from the previous year. The total number of attendances made was 107.

Ultra Violet Ray Treatment.

During the winter months Ultra Violet Ray treatment sessions are held twice weekly at the Headlands Road Clinic, Pontefract and these are well attended.

Speech Therapy.

Mrs. N. Hepworth, Speech Therapist unfortunately resigned on the 30th September, 1954 for domestic reasons and since that date it has not been possible to obtain a replacement. Until Mrs. Hepworth left, she treated 50 children of which 14 were new cases.

Handicapped Pupils.

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary recommendations were made for placement in Special Schools.

Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training College.

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine candidates applying for entry to training colleges for the purpose of satisfying the college authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 28 candidates were examined and where necessary x-ray examination arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 5 examinations were made.

Dental Treatment of School Children.

I give below details of the work undertaken by the School Dental Service in this area during the year:-

No. of children inspected	2183
No. of children found to require treatment	1088
No. of children offered treatment	1088
No. of children treated	1762
No. of attendances	3358
No. of extractions - temporary	3588
- permanent	770
No. of general anaesthetics	1014
No. of fillings - temporary	1
- permanent	2568
No. of other treatments - temporary	24
- permanent	893

HEALTH VISITING

During the year the following number of visits were made by Health Visitors in the Division:

No. of Children under 5 years of age visited during the year.	3170
Total visits made to expectant mothers	168
Total visits made to children under 1 year of age	6197
Total visits to children aged 1 and under 2 years	3837
Total visits to children aged 2 but under 5 years	4921
Total visits to tuberculous households	2145
Total families or households visited	3066
Other cases visited	4095

HOME NURSING.

During the year 24,197 visits were paid by Home Nurses compared with 19,218 in the previous year. This despite the fact that during the larger part of the year the service was under-staffed. The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

Classification.	No. of cases attended by Home Nurses during the year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year.
(1) Medical	550	17588
(2) Surgical	222	5388
(3) Infectious Diseases.	2	14
(4) Tuberculosis	39	1166
(5) Maternal complications.	5	41
TOTALS.	818	24197
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year.	380	14709
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	42	437
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.	109	6707

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The home help service is provided under the National Health Act 1946. Section 29 of the act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows:

(a) Ill

(b) Lying-in

(c) Aged

(d) Expectant Mother

(e) Mental Defective

(f) A child not over compulsory school age.

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council Scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of Home Helps in this division was increased from 20 to 23 on the 1st April, 1954 and during the year the following assistance was given:-

Authorised Divisional Establishment.

(i)	Basic	20/23
(ii)	From Reserve Pool	-
(iii)	TOTAL	20/23

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December.

(i)	Whole-time	Nil
(ii)	Part-time	32
(iii)	Total	32

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st December:

		No. of Cases.	Hours employed
(i)	Maternity (including expectant mothers)	88	8,259
(ii)	Tuberculosis	3	688
(iii)	Chronic sick, including aged & infirm	156	36,405
(iv)	Others	3	460
	TOTALS.	250	45,812

Number of home helps that could have been employed full-time. = 20.02

MENTAL HEALTH

The mental health work in the division consists mainly of the supervision of defectives under Voluntary and Statutory Supervision, and in the provision of reports on home conditions to Hospital Management Committees. The nearest Occupation Centre to this area is at Castleford and at the end of the year 15 children from this area were attending there. For the children who are considered unsuitable for the Occupation Centre, group training classes are held twice weekly at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics, where the Home Teacher, Mrs. Argile provides training in handicrafts of various sorts.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR SUPERANNUATION PURPOSES.

New entrants to the County Council Service are required to undergo a medical examination to see if they are suitable for admission to the Superannuation Scheme, and during the year I examined 83 candidates. In addition 3 members of the County Staff resident in the Divisional area who had been off duty through sickness for a considerable period were examined to ascertain whether or not they were incapable of continuing employment by reason of permanent ill-health.

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF

FEATHERSTONE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1954, the Twenty-Eighth I have had the honour of placing before you.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

WATER SUPPLY: The water supply which is purchased in bulk from Wakefield Corporation Waterworks was satisfactory in quality throughout the year, with a constant supply. The pressure to all parts of the district has been satisfactory.

All the houses in the district are connected to the public mains.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AND DRAINAGE

During the year 8 privy closets and 2 waste water closets were converted to water closets, 20 additional closets were provided for old property and 289 water closets were provided for new property.

At the end of year there were:-

4459	Water Closets
27	Waste Water Closets
37	Trough Water Closets
18	Pail Closets
78	Privy Closets

There are 89 houses in the district not connected to the public sewer and which are drained to cesspools. The majority of these are at Ackton Pastures. The Cesspools are regularly emptied by means of a mechanical cesspool emptier.

The two sewage works have given fairly satisfactory service during the year, but the danger of a breakdown at the South Featherstone works is very real, and the suggested improvements at these works should be carried out without any delay.

SCAVENGING: Scavenging is done by direct labour and has been satisfactorily carried out during the year.

The estimated weight of refuse collected was 9,530 tons. Of this quantity 940 tons were disposed of by tipping, and 40 tons were recovered as salvage.

Salvage of materials of further use for which an economic market could be found was carried out during the year, and the following materials were salvaged and sold:-

Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.		£.	s.	d.
24.	10.	1.	14.	Waste Paper	169.	8.	5.
11.	3.	3.	0.	Kitchen Waste	40.	10.	6.
2.	1.	0.	0.	Mixed Scrap	8.	4.	0.
1.	15.	0.	0.	Heavy Scrap	8.	15.	0.
	2.	0	0	Rags	2.	4.	0.
		1.	12.	Aluminium Scrap		16.	0.
39.	12.	1.	26		£ 229.	17.	11.

NUISANCES: 117 nuisances were discovered, the majority of which were remedied as a result of informal action.

It was necessary to serve 105 Statutory Notices and in 7 of these cases the work was carried out in default and the costs charged to the owners.

FACTORIES: The term Factory includes premises large and small where articles are made, latered or repaired for purpose of gain. There are 35 such premises on the register, and 79 inspections were made. It was not found necessary to take any legal action.

RODENT CONTROL: During the year 1,242 inspections were made and 164 premises were baited (pre-bait and poison) against rats. These were mostly small infestations but included several allotments. 260 Dead Rats and 52 Dead Mice were picked up, which indicates that a large number of rats were killed.

The Council's own premises, sewage works and refuse tip were treated at 3 monthly intervals. Sewer Treatments were carried out in August and September.

HOUSING: During the year 86 houses, 15 bungalows and 4 flats were built by the local authority, 174 houses by the Coal Industrial Housing Association and 4 bungalows and 5 houses by private enterprise, a total of 288 new houses.

The number of post war houses built is as follows:-

	No. of houses erected		
Year	By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise	Total
1946	42	-	42
1947	84	4	88
1948	114	-	114
1949	154	-	154
1950	12	2	14
1951	66	6	72
1952	75	2	77
1953	44	3	47
1954	105	183	288
	696	200	896

Despite the number of houses built the demand shows no sign of abating.

20 houses were demolished during the year in persuance of demolition orders.

55 houses were found to require Statutory action to secure repairs, and 23 demolition orders were issued.

It was found necessary in 1 case to carry out the work by default and to charge the cost to the owner.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD: There are 7 slaughter houses in your area, but during the year only 3 were in regular use. Slaughtering recommenced in July and to the end of the year the following carcases were inspected:-

9	Heifers
14	Cows
25	Bullocks
26	Calves
112	Swine
145	Sheep
163	Lambs

During the year the following articles of food were condemned for human consumption:-

Fresh Meat and Offal	130 lbs
Tinned Meats	68 lbs
Tinned Fruit	70 tins
Beans	24 tins
Tomatoes	111 tins
Milk	17 tins
Soups	3 tins
Pilchards	1 tin
Tomato Juice	7 tins
Crab	3 tins and jars
Scotch Broth	1 tin
Irish Stew	6 tins
Peas	7 tins
Beetroot	1 jar
Cream	1 tin
Beef and Vegetables	1 tin
Steak and Kidney Pudding	1 tin
Pickles	2 jars
Salmon	1 tin
Rock Lobster	1 tin
Spaghetti	1 tin
Sausage	6 lbs

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949: The following licences have been issued during the year:-

Dealers	Tuberculin Tested	17
Supplementary	Tuberculin Tested	4
Dealers	Accredited	1
Dealers	Pasteurised	19
Supplementary	Pasteurised	5
Dealers	Sterilised	36
Supplementary	Sterilised	2

The greater proportion of milk sold in this district is bottled.

CONCLUSION: During the first ten months of the year my pupil assistant was away on military service so my staff was limited to my clerk Mrs. Trafford, who again gave me most valueable service.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. Hilsley.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.